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the United States where free schools have long been available to all, but where very wide differentials in wages and salaries still prevail.

The correctness of the assumption that much greater equality of wages than now exists would be desirable is nowhere demonstrated and the proposition appears to be one of very doubtful validity. Under such circumstances, what incentive would a worker have to "make good"?

While, for the reasons just stated, the reviewer believes that Professor Dalton has gone somewhat too far in his desire for greater equality of incomes, there can be little doubt of the fact that he has done a great service to students in this field by gathering together the material on the subject and presenting a logical discussion of the whole philosophy of distribution of income. The practical recommendations which he makes for modifications of inheritance laws are mainly those previously suggested by Professor Ely and Rignano in their respective writings and are distinctly moderate and logical. These propositions include the abolition of the intestate succession of distant relatives and the partial or total extinction of the right to bequeath inherited property. The last-mentioned limitation, aimed at the abolition of the class known as "the idle rich," certainly contains far-reaching possibilities and has much to commend it. Professor Dalton points out, however, the serious danger, overlooked by most writers on the subject, that heavy inheritance taxation is likely to dissipate the accumulations of wealth so essential to abundant production. He wisely suggests that with any measure causing the state to take over any considerable share of estates should go suitable legal safeguards so drafted as to prevent material diminution in our aggregations of industrial equipment.

The book throughout is thoroughly scientific and is characterized by abundant references and a logical style of presentation.

WILLFORD I. KING.

The Principles of Sociology. By EDWARD ALSWORTH ROSS. (New York: The Century Company. 1920. Pp. xviii, 708.)

Those who have followed Professor Ross's series of articles in recent issues of the *American Journal of Sociology*, and have looked forward to the publication of the volume which they foreshadowed, will not be disappointed in the book itself. In fact, Professor Ross's analyses are even more convincing and illuminating when combined in an integrated and connected system than they were as scattered monographs.

The book is divided into five parts: The Social Population, Social Forces, Social Processes, Social Products, Sociological Principles. The section on Social Processes is by far the most extensive, occupying 480 pages out of a total of 693 pages of reading matter. It is also

the most important. Here the author is at his best. Professor Ross's unique qualifications are those of an observer, and interpreter of what he observes. He has the gift of discerning the real nature of the doings of men and women and children, and through this discernment of showing the relationship between the different departments of human activity, and of reducing the infinite varieties of acts and behavior to certain definite types and categories. Professor Ross is what the character analysts would undoubtedly describe as the dynamic type of man. Accordingly, what interests him most is society as a "going concern." And his ability to see what is going on enables him to see what the results of the "goings on" will be, and to point out what changes in human activity are required if certain desired ends are to be accomplished. His practical conclusions are therefore almost invariably sound, sensible, and positive. This is most fortunate, since he unreservedly commits himself to the telic conception of sociology, and admits that his "over-mastering purpose" is "to better human relations."

The author distinguishes thirty-eight different social processes, to each of which he gives an appropriate name. These are not all of equal weight, nor does their importance as commonly recognized correspond with the amount of space given them. Thus "association" which, in the conception of many sociologists, includes practically the whole subject-matter of the science, occupies only about twice as many pages as "professionalization," and "class struggle" stands on a par with "ossification." This is, of course, due partly to the use of words in a sense somewhat different from the commonly accepted one, but also to the obvious impossibility of giving a clear exposition of a concept in the exact number of words which its relative importance would indicate. In fact, it may require more space to clarify an unfamiliar idea than one which, just because of its importance, is more widely known.

The gross result of this section is to leave upon the reader the impression of an undreamed of orderliness and system in the doings of human beings, a system not the result of a deliberate, pre-arranged organization, but of the working out of problems by innumerable individuals who are fundamentally alike in their essential qualities, and therefore tend to follow certain well defined channels of conduct. The science of society looms large not only as a possibility but as an actuality in the light of such a discussion.

The book opens with a brief analysis of the make-up of the social population, taking into account number, sex, age, urban and rural distribution, growth of population, etc. This is followed by an analysis of the social forces. In recognizing the instincts as the fundamental social forces the author is in close accord with the best modern thought. His exposition of these original forces, however, as well as his treat-

ment of the derivative forces, leaves considerable to be desired. The reader does not quite feel that he has had his feet planted solidly on the substructure of natural forces and natural law upon which the edifice of sociology must ultimately rest if it is to withstand all the winds and floods that beat upon it.

Somewhat the same feeling is engendered by the closing sections on social products and sociological principles. Thus it is surprising to find the recreation center included in a brief list of institutions, but the church omitted; industry included, but commerce and transportation—certainly two of the most distinct social products—omitted. There is also much reason to question the author's position that the extension of social control over industry is a matter which should be left to the economists to decide. Rather is it just at such points as this that the dividing line between economics and sociology is most clearly defined. Similarly, in the discussion of sociological principles, it is strange to find no mention of that great principle, by whatever name it may be called, by which men's recognition of the interests and welfare of others as factors in conduct is becoming so continually extended.

To cite these shortcomings, however, is merely to illustrate the fact that the science of sociology, as at present developed, is much too diffuse to be adequately covered in one work—not to say one volume—by any man, however wide the scope of his mind. To have produced an exposition of one major department, such as Professor Ross has given us in his *Social Processes*, is glory enough for one man.

It hardly need be said that the book is highly readable, crammed with unique and picturesque incidents and cases, all pertinently attached as illustrations to some generalization. The author's powers of observation and wide acquaintance with foreign lands have enabled him to provide a storehouse of invaluable citations for others working in similar fields.

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NEW BOOKS

- BARNICH, G. *Essai de politique positive basée sur l'énergétique sociale de Solvay avec tableau de synthèse sociale.* (Bruxelles: Office de Publicité Lebègue & Cie. 1919. Pp. 410.)
- BOGARDUS, E. S. *Essentials of social psychology.* New, enlarged edition. (Los Angeles: Univ. S. Calif. Press. 1920. Pp. 304. \$1.75.)
- DOW, G. S. *Introduction to the principles of sociology; a textbook for colleges and universities.* (Waco, Texas: Baylor Univ. Press. 1920. Pp. 505.)
- GALESNOFF, W. *Grundzüge der Volkswirtschaftslehre.* (Berlin: Teubner. 1920. 10 M.)